

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed August 6, 2004 has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully reviewed. Claims 3, 12, 19-21 and 27-40 have been allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for this notification. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended. No new subject matter has been added. Claims 1, 3-10, 12-21 and 23-40 are currently pending. Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102/103

The Examiner rejected claims 10, 13-18 and 25-26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Imoto et al. (U.S. Patent 4,755,008). The Examiner also rejected claims 1, 4-9, 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Imoto et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, but have amended claims 1 and 10 to advance this application to allowance. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the original subject matter via a continuing application.

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 10 as suggested by the Examiner to overcome the above rejections. In particular, claims 1 and 10 have been amended to recite that the braking output of the system includes a first braking output and a second braking output, wherein the system is configured to provide each of the first braking output and the second braking output at the same manually controlled input. In light of the amendments to claims 1 and 10, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 4-10, 13-18, and 23-26 are now in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 12, 19-21 and 27-40 are allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for this notification.

SUMMARY

It is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims (claims 1, 3-10, 12-21 and 23-40) is in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.



Date: _____

Sept. 9, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Karen A. Fitzsimmons". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Karen A. Fitzsimmons
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KAF:cjm